

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. A method comprising the steps of:
2 retrieving a first set of recognition programming information associated with a
3 first recognition word set from a remote source external to a first system;
4 programming the first system with said retrieved recognition programming
5 information to recognize a first set of words in the first recognition word set, and in
6 accordance therewith, generating a first set of recognition results responsive to said first set
7 of words;
8 in response to the first set of recognition results, selectively retrieving from
9 said remote external source a second set of recognition programming information associated
10 with a second recognition word set, wherein the selectively retrieved second set of
11 recognition programming is selected based on the first set of recognition results; and
12 reprogramming the first system with said retrieved second set of recognition
13 programming information to recognize a second set of words in the second recognition word
14 set.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1 wherein the first system is connected to the
2 remote source over an internet.
- 1 3. The method of claim 1 wherein the first system is connected to the
2 remote source over an intranet.
- 1 4. The method of claim 1 wherein the remote source is a server.
- 1 5. The method of claim 1 wherein the first system receives word sets
2 from a web site.
- 1 6. The method of claim 1 wherein recognition is performed using
2 speaker-independent speech recognition.
- 1 7. The method of claim 1 wherein the recognition programming
2 information comprises neural network weights.
- 1 8. A method comprising:
2 receiving from an external system first recognition information to recognize a
3 first plurality of words in a first system;

4 programming the first system with the first recognition information to
5 recognize the first plurality of words;
6 generating first recognition results in response to receiving at least one of the
7 first plurality of words in the first system;
8 receiving from the external system second recognition information to
9 recognize a second plurality of words, wherein the second recognition information is selected
10 based on the first recognition results; and
11 programming the first system with the second recognition information to
12 recognize a second plurality of words.

1 9. The method of claim 8 further comprising using a speaker to prompt a
2 user to input at least one of the first plurality of words.

1 10. The method of claim 8 further comprising using a speaker to prompt a
2 user to input at least one of the second plurality of words.

1 11. The method of claim 8 further comprising receiving data from the
2 external system.

1 12. The method of claim 11 wherein the data is audio data.

1 13. The method of claim 11 wherein the data is video data.

1 14. The method of claim 8 wherein the first system is connected to the
2 external system over an internet.

1 15. The method of claim 8 wherein the first system is connected to the
2 external system over an intranet.

1 16. The method of claim 8 wherein the external system is a server.

1 17. The method of claim 8 wherein the first system receives the first and
2 second plurality of words from a web site.

1 18. The method of claim 9 further comprising using a speaker to prompt a
2 user to input at least one of the second plurality of words.

- 1 19. The method of claim 18 further comprising receiving data from the
2 external system.
- 1 20. The method of claim 19 wherein the data is audio data.
- 1 21. The method of claim 19 wherein the first system is connected to the
2 external system over an internet.
- 1 22. The method of claim 19 wherein the first system is connected to the
2 external system over an intranet.
- 1 23. The method of claim 21 wherein the external system is a server.
- 1 24. The method of claim 21 wherein the first system receives the first and
2 second plurality of words from a web site.
- 1 25. The method of claim 22 wherein the external system is a server.
- 1 26. The method of claim 22 wherein the first system receives the first and
2 second plurality of words from a web site.
- 1 27. The method of claim 8 wherein recognition is performed using a
2 speaker-independent speech recognition.
- 1 28. The method of claim 8 wherein recognition programming information
2 comprises neural network weights.
- 1 29. The method of claim 8 wherein the first system includes means for
2 recognizing speech and means for coupling the first system to the external system.
- 1 30. The method of claim 8 wherein the first system is a base unit.
- 1 31. The method of claim 8 wherein the first system includes a recognition
2 engine.
- 1 32. The method of claim 31 wherein the recognition engine is a software
2 program running in a general purpose microprocessor.

1 33. The method of claim 8 wherein the first system is a local computer and
2 the external system is an internet web site, and the first and second recognition information
3 are downloaded from the internet web site to the local computer to recognize the first and
4 second plurality of words.

1 34. A method comprising:
2 supplying a first system with first information from an external source, the
3 first information for recognizing a spoken utterance from a first limited set of candidate
4 utterances;
5 programming the first system with the first information to recognize the first
6 limited set of candidate utterances;
7 generating first results in response to receiving a spoken utterance from the
8 first limited set of candidate utterances in the first system;
9 supplying the first system with second information from the external source,
10 the second information for recognizing a spoken utterance from a second limited set of
11 candidate utterances, wherein the second information is selected based on the first results;
12 and
13 programming the first system with the second information to recognize the
14 second limited set of candidate utterances.

1 35. The method of claim 34 wherein the first system includes a recognition
2 engine.

1 36. The method of claim 35 wherein the recognition engine is a software
2 program running in a general purpose microprocessor.

1 37. The method of claim 34 wherein the first system is a base unit.

1 38. The method of claim 37 wherein the base unit is an internet access
2 device.

1 39. The method of claim 34 wherein the first system is connected to the
2 external source over an internet.

1 40. The method of claim 34 wherein the first system is connected to the
2 external source over an intranet.

1 41. The method of claim 34 wherein the external source is a server.

1 42. The method of claim 41 wherein the first system receives the first and
2 second information from a web site.

1 43. The method of claim 34 wherein the first system is a local computer
2 and the external source is an internet web site, and the first and second information are
3 downloaded from the internet web site to the local computer for recognizing the first and
4 second limited set of candidate utterances.

1 44. A method comprising:
2 downloading first information to a first computer from a server, the first
3 information including data to recognizing an utterance from a first limited set of candidate
4 utterances;
5 programming the first computer with the first information to recognize the
6 first limited set of candidate utterances;
7 receiving a spoken utterance from the first limited set of candidate utterances
8 in the first computer;
9 generating first recognition results in response to receiving the spoken
10 utterance;
11 downloading second information to the first computer from the server, the
12 second information including data to recognizing an utterance from a second limited set of
13 candidate utterances, wherein the second information is selected based on the first
14 recognition results; and
15 programming the first computer with the second information to recognize the
16 second limited set of candidate utterances.

1 45. The method of claim 44 wherein the first computer includes a
2 recognition engine.

1 46. The method of claim 45 wherein the recognition engine is a software
2 program running in a general purpose microprocessor.

1 47. The method of claim 44 wherein the first computer is connected to the
2 server over an internet.

1 48. The method of claim 44 wherein the first computer is connected to the
2 server over an intranet.

1 49. The method of claim 44 wherein the first computer is connected to the
2 server over a local network.

1 50. The method of claim 44 wherein the first computer receives the first
2 and second information from a web site.

1 51. The method of claim 44 wherein the server is an internet web site, and
2 the first and second information are downloaded from the internet web site to the first
3 computer for recognizing the first and second limited set of candidate utterances.

1 52. The method of claim 44 further comprising receiving data from the
2 server.

1 53. The method of claim 52 wherein the data is audio data.

1 54. The method of claim 52 wherein the data is video data.

1 55. The method of claim 44 further comprising prompting a user to input a
2 spoken utterance from the first limited set of candidate utterances.

1 56. The method of claim 55 further comprising prompting a user to input a
2 spoken utterance from the second limited set of candidate utterances.

1 57. The method of claim 44 wherein recognition is performed using
2 speaker-independent speech recognition.

1 58. The method of claim 57 wherein the first and second information
2 comprise neural network weights.

1 59. A computer-readable storage medium including software for
2 performing a method, the method comprising:
3 receiving in a first system from a second system first recognition information
4 to recognize a first plurality of words;
5 programming the first system with the first recognition information to
6 recognize the first plurality of words;

7 generating first recognition results in response to receiving at least one of the
8 first plurality of words in the first system;
9 receiving from the second system second recognition information to recognize
10 a second plurality of words, wherein the second recognition information is selected based on
11 the first recognition results; and
12 programming the first system with the second recognition information to
13 recognize a second plurality of words.

1 60. The method of claim 59 further comprising prompting a user to input
2 at least one of the first plurality of words.

1 61. The method of claim 60 further comprising prompting a user to input
2 at least one of the second plurality of words.

1 62. The method of claim 59 further comprising receiving data from the
2 second system.

1 63. The method of claim 59 wherein the first system is connected to the
2 second system over an internet.

1 64. The method of claim 59 wherein the first system is connected to the
2 second system over an intranet.

1 65. The method of claim 59 wherein the first system is a local computer.

1 66. The method of claim 65 wherein the second system is a server.

1 67. The method of claim 59 wherein the first system receives the first and
2 second plurality of words from a web site.

1 68. The method of claim 59 wherein recognition is performed using
2 speaker-independent speech recognition.

1 69. The method of claim 59 wherein recognition programming information
2 comprises neural network weights.

1 70. The method of claim 59 wherein the first system includes a recognition
2 engine.

1 71. The method of claim 70 wherein the recognition engine is a software
2 program running in a general purpose microprocessor.

1 72. The method of claim 59 wherein the first system is a local computer
2 and the external system is an internet web site, and the first and second recognition
3 information are downloaded from the internet web site to the local computer to recognize the
4 first and second plurality of words.

1 73. A computer-readable storage medium including software for
2 performing a method, the method comprising:
3 supplying a first system with first information from an external source, the
4 first information for recognizing a spoken utterance from a first limited set of candidate
5 utterances;
6 programming the first system with the first information to recognize the first
7 limited set of candidate utterances;
8 generating first results in response to receiving a spoken utterance from the
9 first limited set of candidate utterances in the first system;
10 supplying the first system with second information from the external source,
11 the second information for recognizing a spoken utterance from a second limited set of
12 candidate utterances, wherein the second information is selected based on the first results;
13 and
14 programming the first system with the second information to recognize the
15 second limited set of candidate utterances.

1 74. The method of claim 73 wherein the first system includes a recognition
2 engine.

1 75. The method of claim 74 wherein the recognition engine is a software
2 program running in a general purpose microprocessor.

1 76. The method of claim 73 wherein the first system is a base unit.

1 77. The method of claim 76 wherein the base unit is an internet access
2 device.

1 78. The method of claim 73 wherein the first system is connected to the
2 external source over an internet.

1 79. The method of claim 73 wherein the first system is connected to the
2 external source over an intranet.

1 80. The method of claim 73 wherein the external source is a server.

1 81. The method of claim 80 wherein the first system receives the first and
2 second information from a web site.

1 82. The method of claim 73 wherein the first system includes means for
2 recognizing speech and means for coupling the first system to the external source.

1 83. The method of claim 73 wherein the first system is a local computer
2 and the external source is an internet web site, and the first and second information are
3 downloaded from the internet web site to the local computer for recognizing the first and
4 second limited set of candidate utterances.

1 84. A computer-readable storage medium including software for
2 performing a method, the method comprising:
3 downloading first information to a first computer from a server, the first
4 information including data to recognizing an utterance from a first limited set of candidate
5 utterances;
6 programming the first computer with the first information to recognize the
7 first limited set of candidate utterances;
8 receiving a spoken utterance from the first limited set of candidate utterances
9 in the first computer;
10 generating first recognition results in response to receiving the spoken
11 utterance;
12 downloading second information to the first computer from the server, the
13 second information including data to recognizing an utterance from a second limited set of
14 candidate utterances, wherein the second information is selected based on the first
15 recognition results; and

16 programming the first computer with the second information to recognize the
17 second limited set of candidate utterances.

1 85. The method of claim 84 wherein the first computer includes a
2 recognition engine.

1 86. The method of claim 85 wherein the recognition engine is a software
2 program running in a general purpose microprocessor.

1 87. The method of claim 84 wherein the first computer is connected to the
2 server over an internet.

1 88. The method of claim 84 wherein the first computer is connected to the
2 server over an intranet.

1 89. The method of claim 84 wherein the first computer is connected to the
2 server over a local network.

1 90. The method of claim 84 wherein the first computer receives the first
2 and second information from a web site.

1 91. The method of claim 84 wherein the server is an internet web site, and
2 the first and second information are downloaded from the internet web site to the first
3 computer for recognizing the first and second limited set of candidate utterances.

1 92. The method of claim 84 further comprising receiving data from the
2 server.

1 93. The method of claim 92 wherein the data is audio data.

1 94. The method of claim 92 wherein the data is video data.

1 95. The method of claim 94 further comprising prompting a user to input a
2 spoken utterance from the first limited set of candidate utterances.

1 96. The method of claim 95 further comprising prompting a user to input a
2 spoken utterance from the second limited set of candidate utterances.

1 97. The method of claim 84 wherein recognition is performed using
2 speaker-independent speech recognition.

1 98. The method of claim 97 wherein the first and second information
2 comprise neural network weights.

1 99. The method of claim 1 wherein the wherein the first system is
2 connected to the remote source over a wireless connection.

1 100. The method of claim 8 wherein the first system is connected to the
2 external system over a wireless connection.

1 101. The method of claim 34 wherein the first system is connected to the
2 external source over a wireless connection.

1 102. The method of claim 59 wherein the first system is connected to the
2 second system over a wireless connection.

1 103. The method of claim 73 wherein the first system is connected to the
2 external source over a wireless connection.

1 104. The method of claim 84 wherein the first computer is connected to the
2 server over a wireless connection.